GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2560
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011
ANTI-CORRUPTION LAW
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for strong anti-corruption law to deal with the corruption menace in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard so far; and

(c) the views of each State Government and NGOs including civil society in this regard?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government constituted a Joint Drafting Committee on 8th April, 2011 to prepare a draft of a Lokpal Bill, with five nominee Ministers of the Government of India and five nominees of Shri Anna Hazare, including himself. Based on the deliberation of the Joint Drafting Committee and on the basis of inputs from Chief Ministers of States and from political parties, the Government drafted a Lokpal Bill and introduced it in the Lok Sabha on 4/8/2011.

(c): While state governments took a stand that they could furnish their views only when a draft bill is presented to them, some civil society members had divergence of views on issues relating to the scope of the Lokpal Bill. Some of the major issues on which there were divergence of views are:-

(a) Should there be a single enactment providing for Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayuktas in the State?

(b) Should the Prime Minister and Judges of Supreme Court/High Courts be brought within the purview of the Lokpal?

(c) Should the conduct of Members of Parliament inside Parliament (speaking or voting in the House) be brought within the purview of the Lokpal?